

In re Application of HUDIS et al.  
Serial No. 10/076,166

**Listing of the Claims:**

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method, comprising:  
receiving a query from a client requesting system information of a set of at  
least one managed system device; and

satisfying the query while isolating the client from the system devices,  
including:

a) communicating with a provider to receive a response from the provider  
indicating that the provider is capable of handling the query and to receive data  
corresponding to the query, the data including additional information with respect to  
the query;

b) reducing the complexity of the query to receive the data from the provider,  
if the provider is incapable of responding with the information based on the  
complexity of the query;

b c) removing the additional information in the data; and

c d) returning a response to the client corresponding to the data with the  
additional information removed therefrom.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 further comprising, communicating  
with at least one other provider to receive other data corresponding to the query,  
and aggregating the data received from each provider.

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30. (Canceled)

31. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 28.

32-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method, comprising:  
receiving a client query;  
determining a capability level of a provider of information for satisfying the query based on providing the client query to the provider and evaluating a response from the provider;  
simplifying the query, if the response indicates the provider cannot handle the query;  
providing a request for information to at least one the source of data based on the capability level thereof;  
receiving data from the at least one source; and  
returning information corresponding to the data in response to the client query.

36. (Canceled)

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37. (Canceled)

38. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 35.

39. (Original) A computer-implemented method, comprising:

(a) receiving a query from a client;

(b) passing a request for information corresponding to the query as a current request to a provider of information;

(c) receiving a response from the provider, the response indicating whether the provider was capable of handling the current request for information; and

(i) if the provider was not capable of handling the current request for information, simplifying the request for information from the provider into a new request, passing the new request to the provider as the current request, and returning to step (c); and

(ii) if the provider was capable of handling the current request for information, returning a result to the client corresponding to data provided by the provider.

40. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 39 further comprising, filtering the data provided by the provider.

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41. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 39 further comprising, verifying the data provided by the provider.

42. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 39 further comprising, maintaining information indicative of a level of capability of the provider for handling the request for information.

43. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 39.